

## I CLAIM:

## 1. An electronic ticket vending system comprising:

an electronic ticket vending device that generates an electronic  
5 ticket and executes at least one of vending and refunding by exchanging the  
generated electronic ticket with electronic money;

a communication line connected to said vending device;

10 at least one host processor connected to said communication  
line that executes input, output, transmission and reception for executing at least  
one of vending and refunding of an electronic ticket; and

an electronic ticket storage device, having an interface that  
15 electronically connects to said host processor, where said electronic ticket storage  
device stores electronic money, an electronic ticket, and a transaction history  
including transactions of electronic money and electronic tickets, and where said  
transaction history is updated, by a program stored in said electronic ticket storage  
device, after a transfer of either electronic money or an electronic ticket;

20 where in response to an electronic ticket purchase request or an  
electronic ticket refund request, by at least said host processor or said electronic  
ticket storage device, at least said electronic ticket or said electronic money is sent  
from said electronic ticket vending device via said communication line.

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2. The electronic ticket vending system of claim 1, wherein said  
electronic ticket vending device further comprises: a processor that executes a  
software protocol that produces an electronic ticket from at least data indicating a  
ticket publication source and data indicating the price of a ticket; an interface for  
30 transmission and reception of an electronic ticket, an interface for transmission and  
reception of electronic money; and wherein said electronic ticket vending device stores  
an encryption key, electronic money, and a transaction history of transmitting or

receiving electronic money or an electronic ticket.

3. The electronic ticket vending system of claim 2, wherein said electronic ticket vending device stores a secret key of an asymmetric encryption  
5 algorithm which varies with each merchant and a public key forming a counterpart to said secret key.

4. The electronic ticket vending system of claim 1, wherein said electronic ticket storage device further comprises a processor for controlling  
10 transmission and reception of an electronic ticket and electronic money, and storage of said transaction history.

5. The electronic ticket vending system of claim 4, wherein said electronic ticket storage device stores an electronic signature which is produced by  
15 digitally signing ticket data.

6. An electronic ticket vending method in a system comprising an electronic ticket vending device, at least one host processor, and a communication line connecting said electronic ticket vending system and said at least one host processor,  
20 said method comprising:

a step of sending a request to purchase an electronic ticket to said electronic ticket vending device from at least one of said host processors connected to an electronic ticket storage device having an interface that electronically  
25 connects to said host processor, where said electronic ticket storage device stores electronic money, an electronic ticket, and a transaction history including transactions of electronic money and electronic tickets, and where said transaction history is updated by a program stored in said electronic ticket storage device after a transfer of  
either electronic money or an electronic ticket;

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a step of sending a request for ticket payment to said electronic ticket storage device, when said electronic ticket can be vended from said electronic ticket vending device;

5 a step of sending electronic money, in an amount consistent with said request, to said electronic ticket vending device from said electronic ticket storage device via said communication line;

a step of sending said electronic ticket to said electronic ticket storage device from said electronic ticket vending device after said electronic money is received; and

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a step of receiving said sent electronic ticket via said host processor and storing it in said electronic ticket storage device connected to said host processor.

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7. The electronic ticket vending method of claim 6, further comprising:

a step of receiving said electronic money from said electronic ticket storage device by said electronic ticket vending device;

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a step of recording that said electronic money was received from said electronic ticket storage device; and

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a step of sending said electronic ticket to said electronic ticket storage device; and

a step of recording that said electronic ticket was sent to said electronic ticket storage device.

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8. The electronic ticket vending method of claim 7, further comprising:

a step of receiving said electronic ticket to be refunded from  
5 said electronic ticket storage device by said electronic ticket vending device;

a step of recording that said electronic ticket to be refunded was  
received from said electronic ticket storage device;

10 a step of sending said electronic money to said electronic ticket  
storage device; and

a step of recording that said electronic money was sent to said  
electronic ticket storage device.

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9. The electronic ticket vending method of claim 8, further  
comprising:

a step of sending said electronic money to said electronic ticket  
20 vending device from said electronic ticket storage device;

a step of recording that said electronic money was sent to said  
electronic ticket vending device;

25 a step of receiving said electronic ticket by said electronic ticket  
storage device; and

a step of recording that said electronic ticket storage device  
received said electronic ticket.

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10. The electronic ticket vending method of claim 9, further

comprising:

a step of sending said electronic ticket to be refunded to said electronic ticket vending device from said electronic ticket storage device;

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a step of recording that said electronic ticket to be refunded was sent;

a step of receiving said electronic money from said electronic ticket vending device by said electronic ticket storage device; and

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a step of recording that said electronic ticket storage device received said electronic money.

11. An electronic ticket vending system comprising:

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an electronic ticket vending device having a processor programmed to generate an electronic ticket and execute at least one of vending and refunding by exchanging the generated electronic ticket with electronic money;

a communication line connected to said vending device;

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at least one host processor connected to said communication line programmed to execute input, output, transmission and reception for executing at least one of vending and refunding of an electronic ticket; and

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an electronic ticket storage device having an interface that electronically connects to said host processor, where said electronic ticket storage device has a processor programmed to store electronic money, an electronic ticket, and a transaction history including transactions of electronic money and electronic tickets, and where said processor is programmed to update said transaction history after a transfer of either electronic money or an electronic ticket;

where in response to receiving an electronic ticket purchase request or an electronic ticket refund request, said electronic ticket vending device is

programmed to send at least said electronic ticket or said electronic money to said electronic ticket storage device via said communication line.

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